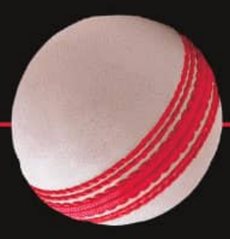
BENGALURU, MONDAY, JUNE 1, 2026 www.Bangaloremirror.com 12 Pages PRICE ₹3

Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 32 | Min 22 | Humidity 62% Mostly cloudy Sensex 74,775 | Nifty 23,547 | Gold 1,56,010 | Silver 2,66,910 | Dollar 95.01 | Euro 110.83 | GBP 127.84

Champions are crowned



And the fandom roars on YouTube

YouTube is where sports come to life

Scan to know more

96% viewers watch cricket content on YouTube/Shorts

(higher than any other platform)

YouTube drives 2.3x incremental ROAS compared to social media

There's only one YouTube

Source: Kantar Media Compass: Survey Period- January 2026, TG- 18 yrs+ Urban NCCS ABCDE who watched cricket in the last one month (L1M). Sample All India SS = 1271 Gen Z SS = 573 Kantar Media Compass is a quarterly report based on a rolling sample of 87,000 consumers, measuring consumer media consumption across TV, print, and digital platforms. This data point is derived from a statistical fusion of call backs to 1271 users and the Kantar Media Compass, mapping a subset of cricket consumer behaviors onto a large-scale 360-degree media consumption framework..
2. Equity-to-Sales MMM Meta Analysis commissioned by Google, covering a 2-year measurement period of 20 CPG brands from across the 2021-2023 timeframe. "Long-term ROAS" is defined as impact of each marketing channel in driving brand equity & this brand equity's impact in driving sales, relative to the marketing channel's media spend.

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CRIMES OF PASSION

It is all about rage, revenge, and romance: Motives behind murders in city are intensely personal, data reveals

PAGE 5

SEEING RED

B'luru donned its unofficial uniform on day when citizens waited for their champions to hold on to the cup for another year

PAGE 7

Theft and bodily harm among most common juvenile offences in Bengaluru; though number of crimes show a slight dip, child rights activists say awareness on issue is still lacking

ONE WRONG TURN

18 murder cases involving minors, 20 related to causing physical harm in 2024

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Theft and bodily harm cases continue to remain the most common offences committed by juveniles in Bengaluru, according to data compiled by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) 2024. While crimes committed by juveniles increased across Karnataka overall, Bengaluru actually registered a decline in juvenile offences. However, advocates say there is a lack of awareness about juvenile offences among students in schools and colleges.

City Police Commissioner Seemant Kumar Singh told BM that most cases registered against juveniles in the city are related to theft, chain-snatching and house burglaries. He added that there have also been a few cases involving bodily harm, including simple assault and grievous hurt, often committed in cases of revenge. However, compared to previous years, the number of cases registered against juveniles has been coming down in recent times, he said.

According to NCRB data, Karnataka recorded 558 juvenile crime cases in 2022, which increased to 883 cases in 2023 and further rose to 1,115 cases in 2024. In Bengaluru alone, 200 cases were reported in 2022. The number went up to 427 cases in 2023 before slightly dropping to 386 cases in 2024.

The data shows juveniles were involved in several serious crimes in 2024. A total of 18 murder cases involving minors were reported during the year. There were also 20 cases related to causing physical harm to others, including assault and grievous hurt. Overall, police registered 59 cases under offences affecting the human body.

Property-related crimes

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4 »

> **"Awareness programmes should be held in schools and colleges about juvenile offences. Children need to understand what actions are considered offences and how involvement in crimes at a young age can seriously impact their future**
>
> —Rajalaxmi Ankalagi, advocate

Ready to face the heat?

Climate change impact is sweeping across our coastline, shows study; heat to rise by 1.2°C

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A major climate study has issued a stark warning for Karnataka's coastline, predicting a future marked by extreme heat, rising humidity, and intense monsoon rainfall across districts such as Dakshina Kannada, Udupi and Uttara Kannada. The report suggests that the environmental transformation could severely impact public health, agriculture, infrastructure, and livelihoods within the next two decades.

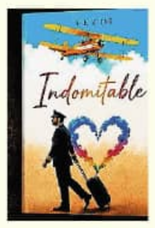
PAGE 3: CONCRETE EVIDENCE

The findings are part of the Indian Coastal Region: Climate Projections 2021–2040 report released by Azim Premji University on Friday. Researchers have warned that the climate crisis is no longer a distant possibility but an immediate reality unfolding across India's coastal regions. Harini Nagendra, Director of the School of Climate Change and Sustainability at Azim Premji University, described the findings as a "mirror" reflecting an unavoidable reality. She said climate change can no longer be viewed as a

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4 »

THINGS TO DO

01 Page turner



Atta Galatta is hosting the launch of 'Indomitable', a heartfelt story of middle-class aspirations and the travails of everyday living – of family, love and laughter coupled with loneliness and death. Where: Atta Galatta, Indiranagar; When: June 6, 5 pm

02 Echoes of Earth

Bhoomija presents Beeja Earth Seed, an immersive dance production by Malavika Sarukkai. Conceived as a bold artistic response to ecological crises, it evocatively explores humanity's ties to nature, memory, greed, harmony and loss. Where: Prestige Centre for Performing Arts; When: June 6, 7 pm

03 Shopping spree

Dastkar Bazaar presents its 25th edition with 160+ craft groups bringing authentic handcrafted merchandise across textiles, pottery, jewellery and wellness products. Where: Jayamahal Palace Hotel; When: Until June 4, 10.30 am to 8 pm

04 Camping adventure

Career Compass, in association with Laughing Elephants, presents an unforgettable outdoor summer camp amidst the tranquil Sharavati backwaters near Jog Falls. Designed for children and teenagers aged 10 to 18, the camp offers opportunities to explore nature and build new skills. Those interested can contact for registration: +91 98450 47991. When: June 11 to 25

05 Wild wonders

The Galleria Mall has transformed into a Jungle Book-themed destination for children and families, with an immersive experience featuring larger-than-life animatronic displays of iconic characters along with workshops, performances and more. Where: The Galleria Mall, Yelahanka; When: Until June 7, 12 pm onwards

Obesity on the rise in women across K'taka

Data shows obesity affects over half of urban women and one third of rural populations, underscoring urgent need to increase awareness on healthy dietary habits, exercise and preventive healthcare

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Karnataka has witnessed a sharp rise in obesity among women over the past three years, with the proportion of overweight and obese women increasing from 30.2 per cent in NFHS-5 (2019-21) to 41.2 per cent in NFHS-6 (2023-24), raising concerns among health experts.

The survey found that 41.2 per cent of women aged 15-49 years have a Body Mass Index (BMI) of 25 kg/m² or above, marking a sharp increase from 30.2 per cent recorded in NFHS-5 (2019-21). The findings indicate that excess weight among women has risen significantly over the past few years, particularly in urban areas.

The urban-rural divide is striking. In urban Karnataka, 51.7 per cent of women are overweight or obese, meaning more than half of women in cities fall into this category. In contrast, the prevalence in rural areas stands at 33 per cent.

The survey also shows that 14 per cent of women have a BMI below 18.5 kg/m², a marginal improvement from 14.3 per cent in NFHS-5. Rural women continue to be more affected, with 18.4 per cent classified as underweight, compared to 8.5 per cent in urban areas.

Health experts warn that rising obesity levels among women can increase the risk of several non-communicable diseases, including diabetes, hypertension, heart disease and reproductive health complications. They emphasise the need for greater awareness about balanced diets, physical activity and preventive healthcare, especially in urban settings where obesity rates are highest.

Doctors suggest limiting junk food consumption, having balanced diet and regular exercise to stay healthy

Health experts warn that rising levels of obesity among women can significantly increase risk of several non-communicable diseases, including diabetes, hypertension, heart disease and reproductive health complications, among other problems

Dr Edmond Fernandes, Consultant Physician - Preventive Medicine and World Economic Forum Young Global Leader, said, "With urbanisation, people have grown comfortable to the technology-driven privileges of getting groceries, food and clothes at the press of a button. Thus, lifestyle discipline is the first casualty in this emerging scheme of things."

Dr Fernandes said that rising obesity for women in reproductive age has multiple pain points. "Normally we look at disease risk such as diabetes, hypertension and cardiac comorbidities, but skin health, body mass, sexual health, energy levels all take a severe beating," he said.

Dr Sylvia Karpagam, public health doctor, explained that rising obesity in Karnataka is linked to poor-quality diets across socioeconomic groups and warned against simplistic dietary interventions. "There is a concerning rise in obesity in Karnataka. One can anticipate more obesity-related complications such as diabetes, hypertension, heart disease and others. This will burden the health system, which is already struggling to meet existing requirements. Big Pharma, with its drug-centric solutions, will be one of the biggest beneficiaries," she said.

Dr Karpagam noted that obesity in India affects both rich and poor, driven by poor diets. She stressed it is a misconception that healthy fats cause weight gain, when in fact, natural fats promote satiety, helping one feel full longer, unlike sugar and carbohydrates that trigger rapid spikes and crashes in blood sugar, leading to frequent eating. "The Prime Minister has asked for fats and oils in the midday meal to be reduced based on concerns about rising obesity. This is problematic because fats are crucial for important body functions, especially in growing children and those in government schools are already malnourished. Targeting them is a serious concern. Instead, people should be encouraged to consume good-quality proteins, mainly from animal-source foods, including dairy," said Dr Karpagam. She added that without dietary diversity, stunting and underweight will persist and obesity cannot be effectively controlled.

New school year begins with support and motivation

Volunteers equip government schoolchildren with academic supplies, while also encouraging them to attend school regularly and excel in studies

With schools reopening after the summer break, children across the region are back in classrooms with renewed enthusiasm. On Saturday, the Helping Heroes India Foundation visited the government school in Kottegallu village near Bidadi, where 50 students from Classes 1 to 7 are enrolled. Volunteers distributed school bags, books and stationery, ensuring the children begin the academic year well equipped and motivated.

Addressing the students, Matheen, trustee of Helping Heroes India Foundation, highlighted the importance of education in shaping their future. He assured that the foundation will continue visiting the school every three months to interact with and encourage the children.

Vijayan, a volunteer, urged children to attend classes regularly and announced a surprise gift for those achieving 100 per cent attendance, highlighting that even small acts of recognition can inspire big changes. "Felicitating students who come to school regularly will motivate every student. A small act, but it makes a big difference," he said.

The volunteers spent time with the children, motivating them to study well and bring pride to their village.

Headmaster Shanker Murthy expressed heartfelt gratitude to the volunteers who travelled all the way from Bengaluru to extend support to the students. "This shows how much importance the team is giving to education," he remarked.

The initiative reflects the foundation's commitment to nurturing young minds and reinforcing the value of consistent learning and highlights how small gestures of encouragement may go a long way in inspiring students to put in extra effort and excel in their studies.

— Y Maheswara Reddy

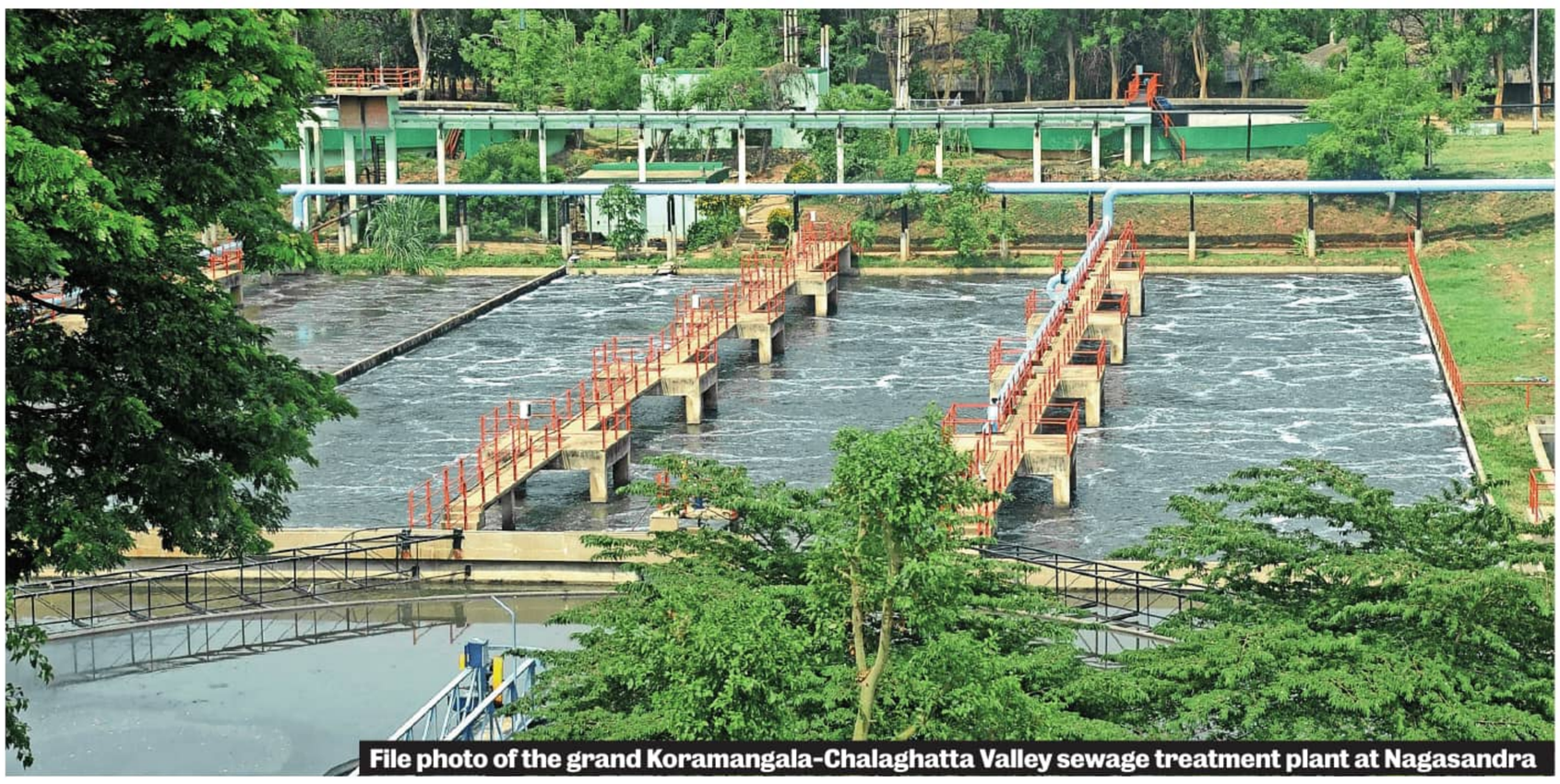
GPS attendance made mandatory for govt school teachers

From the very first day of school reopening on May 29, teachers in government and aided primary and high schools must mark attendance digitally through a GPS-based mobile app, replacing the traditional attendance register system. The School Education Department has made digital attendance compulsory through the Karnataka Attendance Management System (KAMS) app, which teachers have already been instructed to install on their phones. Under the new system, teachers must log in before school hours begin and log out after classes end, attendance will be recorded only if they are within 100 metres of the school campus. Officials say the GPS-enabled system will help track teacher punctuality and streamline attendance records across the state.

While education officials claim the new system will improve accountability and academic quality, several teachers have raised concerns over poor internet connectivity, lack of transport facilities and the absence of smartphones in remote border areas. Teachers say logging in on time could become difficult in villages with weak mobile networks or delayed bus services. Some have also questioned how attendance will be managed if phones are lost, damaged or forgotten at home. Despite the concerns, officials insist the system is being implemented on a trial basis, monitored by Block Education Officers who will submit monthly attendance reports to district authorities. Teachers' associations have welcomed the move in principle but urged the government to create alternative arrangements for schools facing network and infrastructure issues. **— BMB**

World Environment Day: 4 DAYS to go

How green was my valley



File photo of the grand Koramangala-Chalaghatta Valley sewage treatment plant at Nagasandra

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Concrete roads, pavements, and buildings across Koramangala-Challaghatta valley has almost eliminated all space for rainwater to percolate

Extreme urbanisation of Bengaluru's Koramangala–Challaghatta (KC) valley has left little to no room for rainwater to percolate. With the total built-up area in the valley increasing from 62.74% in 2000 to 87% in 2025, the runoff rate has increased, posing a high risk of flooding.

A study conducted by researchers from RV College of Architecture on 30 sq km of east KC Valley paints a worrying picture.

According to researchers, changes in land use, mainly a tremendous surge in impervious surface in the region, have led to an increase in runoff by approximately 3.4 times the runoff rate in the natural scenario (built-up area less than 10%).

Researchers conducted a rainfall-runoff simulation of the pre-development (built-up area less than 10%) and post-development (built-up area 87%) scenarios. Results show that peak runoff has gone up from 72.60 m^3/s in the pre-development scenario to 248.00 m^3/s in the post-development scenario, registering a 3.4-fold increase.

Experts attribute the high runoff levels in Bengaluru to the city's declining infiltration capacity, caused largely by the expansion of impervious surfaces such as concrete roads, pavements, and buildings across the valley.

Flood threat

"Such rapid runoff significantly increases the city's vulnerability to flooding. The priority now should be to develop flood-resilient urban spaces. With growing concretisation and shrinking green cover, policymakers must focus on preserving and enhancing Bengaluru's natural ecosystems. Existing green spaces should be protected and strengthened through the planting of deep-rooted tree species that improve water absorption and groundwater recharge," said Professor Shivalinge Gowda SK, a scholar at RV College of Architecture.

Researchers emphasised that merely increasing the carrying capacity of storm-water drains is not a sustainable long-term solution.

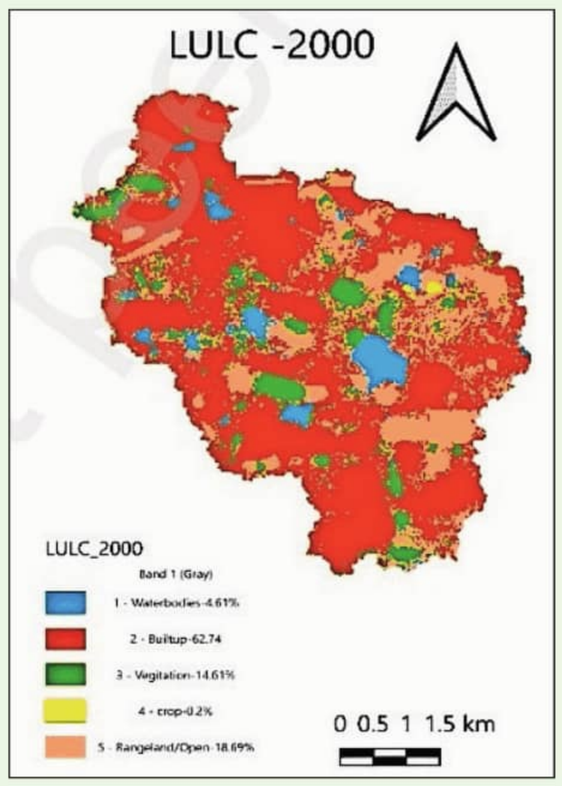
"Rather than relying on isolated infrastructure upgrades, Bengaluru needs a comprehensive and nature-based approach to flood management. The city must recreate natural hydrological processes by incorporating rain gardens, green roofs, permeable pavements, water retention ponds, restored lakes, urban forests, and additional green spaces wherever feasible. These measures can significantly improve infiltration and reduce flood risks," said Shikha Verma, Associate Professor at RV College of Architecture.

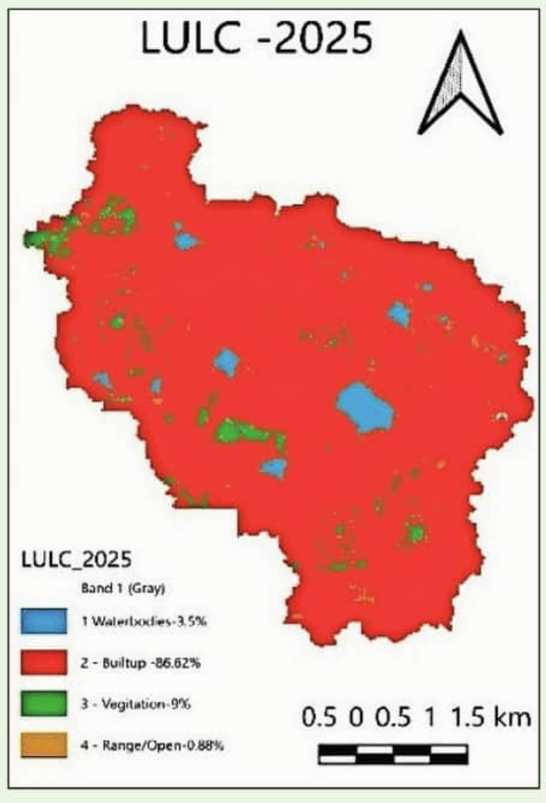
Experts also pointed out that the concretisation of stormwater drains has hindered natural groundwater recharge, resulting in higher surface runoff. In addition, much of the lake network in the KC Valley region remains degraded. Many drains connected to lakes carry untreated sewage, further reducing the effectiveness of the water system.

"To make Bengaluru truly flood-resilient, it is essential to restore the interconnected lake network, deconcretize suitable sections of stormwater drains, and ensure that these waterways carry only stormwater rather than sewage," added Professor Gowda.

The research is published in papers.ssrn.com.

Between 2000 and 2025, built-up area (orange) completely wiped out green, blue and open spaces





No suicide, but man jailed: Reckless police rapped

The High Court has strongly criticised the police for booking and incarcerating a man on charges of abetting his wife's suicide even though she was alive and had only attempted to take her own life.

Justice M Nagaprasanna, while hearing the case, termed the prosecution a glaring example of mechanical investigation and reckless application of criminal law. The court noted that the husband had spent nearly six months in jail for an offence that could not have been made out on the admitted facts of the case.

The matter arose from a case registered by the Banaswadi police. The woman had allegedly attempted suicide, but police invoked provisions relating to abetment of suicide and later filed a charge sheet against her husband. During the proceedings, the woman appeared before the court and informed the judge that she was alive and had resolved her differences with her husband. She expressed her desire to continue living with him.

Questioning the basis of the prosecution, the court remarked that the essential ingredient of the offence — an actual suicide — was absent. Justice Nagaprasanna observed that despite this, the investigating officer proceeded to register the case and file a charge sheet under the relevant provision dealing with abetment of suicide.

The judge said the case revealed a disturbing pattern of non-application of mind by the investigating agency. The court observed that the police had failed to examine the basic legal requirements that resulted in the husband's prolonged incarceration. **BMB**

HIGH COURT

Domestic violence: Bail to man's mother

The High Court has granted anticipatory bail to the mother of a man accused in a case involving allegations of rape, domestic violence and religious conversion of his wife, observing that her direct involvement in the alleged offences appeared limited at this stage of the investigation.

Justice R Nataraj passed the order while hearing a plea filed by the woman, who had been named as an accused along with her son in a criminal case registered by the Suddaguntepalya police.

According to the complaint, the woman alleged that the main accused had sexually assaulted her after making her consume an intoxicating substance, recorded objectionable videos and photographs, and later used them to blackmail her. She further claimed that he repeatedly subjected her to sexual abuse, assaulted her during pregnancy and pressured her to convert from Hinduism to Islam before agreeing to marry her.

Seeking protection from arrest, the accused man's mother argued before the High Court that she had no role in the alleged acts. Justice Nataraj observed that the mother's involvement in the rape allegation appeared remote and granted here anticipatory bail. **BMB**

FALL SEASON

Frazer Town sounds alarm over dangerous trees

Tree collapse on Mosque Road brought down four electricity poles, causing power disruptions and intensifying concerns over neglected maintenance

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Residents of Frazer Town have expressed serious concerns over several dangerous trees in the locality after heavy rains on Saturday night led to multiple incidents, including a tree falling on a parked car and another uprooted tree bringing down four electric poles on Mosque Road.

According to residents, repeated complaints about weakened and damaged trees have gone unaddressed despite several warnings to authorities. Many fear the situation could result in serious injury or even loss of life if immediate action is not taken.

Umera Faisal, a resident of Frazer Town, said, "During every spell of heavy rain, trees are falling in many parts of our area. One of the main reasons is the white-topping work, where tree roots have been damaged or restricted, making the trees weak and unstable. We have been requesting the authorities to inspect the trees and take preventive measures before a tragedy occurs. Public safety as well as the protection of our green cover should be given priority."

Another resident said, "There is a tree near our house and close to St Francis Xavier School that residents had reported long ago. The school has reopened and children use this route every day. We are worried because the tree is becoming increasingly dangerous. Authorities must act before something unfortunate happens." Concerns intensified after a tree on Mosque Road was uprooted during the rains and brought down four electricity poles, causing power disruptions in the area. Residents reported that several households were left without electricity for

A tree fallen onto an electric pole on Mosque Road

> **"We have been requesting the authorities to inspect the trees and take preventive measures before a tragedy occurs. Public safety as well as the protection of our green cover should be given priority**
>
> – Umera Faisal, citizen

hours. BESCOM officials later began work to replace the damaged poles.

Residents pointed out that many trees showing signs of weakness had been identified earlier and complaints had been submitted to various departments. They questioned why preventive measures such as pruning, structural assessment and removal of hazardous branches had not been carried out.

One source said, "Unless the tree falls, action is not taken. That is because there is no separate budget allocated for tree pruning and trimming. Earlier, when elected corporators were in office, at least ₹2 lakh was earmarked in the ward budget for tree maintenance and trimming. However, during the last five to six years of administrative rule, this provision has largely been neglected, leaving residents to deal with the consequences and depend on limited resources for such essential work."

With the monsoon season expected to continue, residents are demanding an urgent survey of vulnerable trees across Mosque Road and surrounding areas

Rain & wind leave trail of destruction

Heavy rain and strong winds on Saturday evening left a trail of damage on 4th Main Road in Yeshwanthpur, where two trees fell around 6 pm, damaging a temple, a garment unit and a parked car.

According to residents, a nilgiri tree fell onto the roof of a nearby garment unit, damaging part of the structure. A dried tree collapsed onto Shree Shaneshwara Swamy Devalaya before crashing onto a white Maruti Suzuki Swift parked behind the temple. No injuries were reported.

The owner of the Swift was unaware of the damage and only discovered it on Sunday morning. Residents said the car remained trapped under fallen branches overnight. "He had no idea what had happened. When he came in the

morning and saw the condition of his car, he was very upset. It has become an unnecessary expense for him, and he will now have to spend a lot on repairing his car," he added.

The fallen branches extensively damaged the vehicle, shattering its windshield and burying parts of it under debris. The impact also damaged the temple, while the fallen nilgiri tree affected a section of the garment unit. Residents said the incident reflects a larger problem in the locality. Several trees and branches have reportedly fallen in and around Yeshwanthpur in recent days, raising concerns about public safety. "These incidents are becoming too frequent. Every time there is heavy rain and wind, people worry about trees coming down. This time only property was damaged, but it could have been much worse if someone had been passing through the area," said another resident.

Despite the incident occurring on Saturday evening, the fallen trees remained uncleared until Sunday morning. Residents questioned the delay in clearing debris despite significant property damage. They urged civic authorities to inspect ageing trees in the area and address potential hazards before future incidents result in injuries.

— Muhammed Ameen

Organised gangs prey on minors to commit crimes

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

continued to be the highest among juvenile offences. Police recorded 104 theft cases involving juveniles, along with 30 robbery cases and five burglary cases. In total, 150 cases were registered under offences against property. Apart from this, 35 cases of rash and negligent driving involving juveniles were also reported in 2024. Police officials said many organised gangs use minors for criminal activities because of their young age and the softer legal provisions under the Juvenile Justice Act. In many cases, juveniles are drawn into crimes to support addictions, manage personal expenses or because they are influenced by older criminals.

For instance, Bengaluru police arrested 13 members of an interstate mobile theft gang, including nine juveniles from Jharkhand, for allegedly stealing phones during the IPL match between Royal Challengers Bengaluru and Sunrisers Hyderabad at the M Chinnaswamy Stadium. Police recovered 75 mobile phones worth nearly ₹65 lakh. The thefts were reported during the March 28 IPL opener when spectators complained of missing phones in the crowded stadium. Investigators said the gang recruited minors from Jharkhand and used them as pickpockets. Adult accused, including key suspect Shubham Kumar, allegedly coordinated the operation and travelled separately to avoid suspicion.

Senior police officers stated that many juveniles apprehended in recent years come from economically weaker backgrounds or broken families, while some are school dropouts who fall into bad company.

Advocate and child rights activist Rajalaxmi Ankalagi said numbers don't always reveal the whole picture. "It is not just about data showing an increase or decrease in juvenile crimes, as statistics alone may not reflect the ground reality. Awareness about juvenile offences and rehabilitation is still lacking." She stressed on the need for stronger intervention programmes in schools and communities to prevent children from entering criminal activities at an early age.

Ankalagi said that lack of parental supervision, financial stress and addiction to drugs or alcohol or a desire to maintain a high lifestyle are among the major reasons behind the trend. "Just like awareness programmes are conducted on POCSO cases, self-defence and cybercrime, similar programmes should also be held in schools and colleges about juvenile offences. Children need to understand what actions are considered offences and how involvement in crimes at a young age can seriously impact their future," Ankalagi added.

She elaborated on how children get involved in offences due to changing lifestyles and lack of interest in education. "Among poorer families, parents work hard, but many children are not interested in studies despite compulsory education. Some spend time doom-scrolling or fall into bad habits. In one instance near my house, a BBMP worker's child refused schooling despite repeated efforts and later got addicted to drugs. In affluent families too, children who lose interest in studies, often get whatever they demand, leading some towards theft or substance abuse when they don't get what they demand. While many believe that Gen Z avoids alcohol, there is also a growing concern over increasing drug use among youngsters."

"Early action is important to stop small thefts from turning into serious or violent crimes. When people feel they can escape after stealing, they are more likely to repeat such offences. Proper tracking, monitoring, counselling, and rehabilitation in minor theft cases can help prevent juveniles from becoming habitual offenders," Ankalagi added.

Rainfall set to surge up to 13% by 2040

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

distant global issue, adding that its effects are already visible in people's daily lives, ecosystems, and local economies. Nagendra stressed that India has only a limited window to move from reactive responses to proactive climate adaptation before the crisis deepens further along vulnerable coastal regions. According to the report, coastal Karnataka is expected to witness a consistent increase in temperatures across all seasons. In Dakshina Kannada, summer maximum temperatures and wet-bulb temperatures are projected to rise by 1.1°C, while annual maximum and winter minimum temperatures could increase by around 1°C. Scientists warn that higher wet-bulb temperatures (which combine heat and humidity) can pose serious health risks and make outdoor work increasingly dangerous.

Similar trends are expected in Udupi, where summer heat and humidity are also projected to intensify. The district's annual maximum temperature and winter minimum temperature are likely to rise steadily from existing levels, creating hotter and more uncomfortable conditions. In Uttara Kannada, the report projects the sharpest increase in winter minimum temperatures at 1.2°C, alongside a big rise in summer humidity levels. Researchers say such warming patterns could affect biodiversity, marine ecosystems, water availability, and traditional occupations dependent on stable conditions.

Monsoon threat

The report also predicts a dramatic increase in rainfall intensity across Karnataka's coast. Dakshina Kannada's southwest monsoon rainfall is expected to rise by 7%, while the northeast monsoon could increase by 6%. Udupi may witness a 10% increase in northeast monsoon rainfall, signalling longer and heavier rainy spells. The most severe change is projected in Uttara Kannada, where northeast monsoon rainfall may surge by 13% . Experts caution that the increase in rainfall could trigger more floods, landslides, coastal erosion, and damage to roads, homes, and crops. The report estimates that Dakshina Kannada's population could reach 2.5 million by 2030, while Uttara Kannada may house around 1.6 million people, increasing the number of vulnerable residents.

Smuggling racket thrives behind prison walls

Despite multiple reform measures undertaken by the prison department, illegal activities continue inside Parappana Agrahara Central Prison in Bengaluru. Incidents involving drug supply and mobile phone smuggling remain frequent. Inmates, including convicts and undertrials, have been found making video calls, issuing threats to people outside and misbehaving with prison staff.

In the last six months, 44 cases have been registered against prison staff and inmates. These include 32 cases related to mobile phones and SIM cards, four involving drug smuggling, three inmate clashes, four recoveries of cash inside prison and one case involving a parolee accused of theft before returning to jail.

The issue drew public attention last November after videos surfaced on social media showing inmates, including rape and serial murder convict Umesh Reddy, ISIS-linked accused and gold smuggling accused, using mobile phones inside barracks. Another video showed undertrial prisoners consuming alcohol and dancing within prison premises.

Following the controversy, two prison officials were suspended and the superintendent transferred. A high-level committee led by ADGP (Law and Order) Hitendra investigated the matter and submitted its report. While authorities are implementing some recommendations, allegations persist that illegal activities inside the prison have not been fully curbed.

Search operations ordered by DGP of Prisons and Correctional Services Alok Kumar led to the seizure of over 70 mobile phones, chargers, cash and cigarette packets. Yet the supply chain reportedly continued. On March 26, a visitor was caught smuggling drugs and three SIM cards, while inspections uncovered hidden phones.

Amid these concerns, the department has signed an agreement with RV College of Engineering to provide skill-based training to inmates, focusing on digital literacy and technology-driven programmes to improve rehabilitation and reintegration prospects. **–BMB**

CRIME FILES

4 arrested in 2 separate robbery cases

In two separate robbery cases registered at Hebbagodi Police Station, police arrested four persons and recovered stolen property.

In the first case, two persons snatched a mobile phone from a man walking near a bar on Hulimangala Main Road, on May 21. In another case, three persons robbed a man of his two-wheeler at Yarandahalli village and fled on May 24.

Police inquiries led to the arrest of two persons who were nabbed with one mobile phone and a two-wheeler near Shikaripalya on May 27.

In the second case, inquiries led police to two persons near a layout in Kacharakanahalli, and the police recovered an auto rickshaw and a two wheeler. The accused confessed to the crime in police custody. **–BMB**

Rowdy video goes viral, cops step in

A citizen posted an alarming video on their Instagram handle @jawadaed1122 where a group of youths were seen engaged in a heated argument around 7.30 am on Saturday near St Alphonsus School opposite Ghousia Tea Hotel.

One of the persons in the video was allegedly seen brandishing a large knife in public, creating a sense of fear among nearby members of the public and commuters. The eight men were seen mounting two motorcycles and were seen casually violating basic traffic rules.

Pulakeshinagar Police Station officials responded to the video and connected with the citizen who posted it online. The police are reviewing the footage and stated in their response that appropriate action will be taken. **–BMB**

Rage, revenge, romance & momentary lapse of reason

City records 47 murders over minor quarrels, 41 linked to enmity, showing crimes are driven less by systemic lawlessness and more by sudden rage, passion

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While narratives of violent crime in India often focus on gang wars, political assassinations, or street robberies, Bengaluru's criminal underbelly tells a markedly different and deeply personal story.

According to the latest NCRB data on motives behind homicides across major Indian cities, the Silicon Valley of India faces a distinctly domestic crisis. In this bustling tech hub, murders are driven less by systemic lawlessness and more by sudden rage, personal grudges, and fractured relationships. The findings suggest that the gravest threat rarely comes from strangers, but from people within one's immediate social or romantic circle.

Bengaluru recorded 47 murders triggered by petty quarrels and minor disputes. While Delhi reported the highest overall count, Bengaluru's numbers remain significantly higher than those of other major commercial centres, including Mumbai and Hyderabad, which recorded 23 and 14 such cases respectively. In a fast-paced metropolis shaped by high-pressure environments, flashpoints ranging from road rage to neighbourhood disagreements often escalate into deadly confrontations.

Adding to this pattern is a strong undercurrent of long-standing resentment. Bengaluru registered 41 murders linked to personal vendettas or enmity, among the highest figures in the country and far exceeding Mumbai's four cases and Chennai's 14. The data indicates that a substantial share of homicides in the city stem from unresolved conflicts and broken trust.

Bengaluru recorded 19 murders linked to illicit relationships and 11 arising from love affairs, placing it among the cities with the highest concentration of crimes of passion

Experts attribute rising interpersonal violence to rapid urbanisation, emotional isolation and mounting pressures that turn ordinary disagreements into catastrophic confrontations

The city's rapidly evolving cosmopolitan character is also reflected in relationship-driven violence. Bengaluru recorded 19 murders linked to illicit relationships and 11 arising from love affairs, placing it among the cities with the highest concentration of crimes of passion. These figures underscore how personal and relational tensions can spiral into extreme violence.

Even when financial gain motivates a murder, Bengaluru diverges from conventional metropolitan crime trends. The city recorded nine murders for material gain—the second-highest among surveyed cities—yet registered zero cases under dacoity and robbery. This suggests that financially motivated killings are less likely to emerge from random crimes and more likely to involve calculated targeting for specific monetary benefits.

In contrast, Bengaluru reported no murders linked to political rivalries, honour killings, class conflicts, or insurgent extremism.

Psychologist Radhika R said, "In a hyper-paced tech hub like Bengaluru, the pressure cooker of rapid urbanisation strips away traditional coping mechanisms. When everyday friction hits a wall of deep emotional isolation, minor triggers don't just cause arguments, they spark catastrophic, impulsive violence among people who know each other all too well."

100 patrol units to bolster highway safety

In a major push to improve highway safety, police will soon deploy 100 dedicated patrol vehicles across key national and state highways to curb accidents, robberies and other crimes targeting travellers.

Under a new plan drawn up by the Karnataka State Road Safety Authority (KSRSA), a patrol vehicle will cover every 15-20 km stretch on major highways, operating round the clock with teams led by an Assistant Sub-Inspector and supported by three to four personnel.

The proposal has received state government approval, and tenders for vehicle procurement are expected shortly following discussions led by Chief Secretary Shalini Rajneesh, Director General of Police MA Saleem, and DIGP and Commissioner of Traffic and Road Safety K Parashuram.

Police had initially sought 150 vehicles, but the government approved 100 in the first phase. The patrol units will be deployed on major routes, including the Bengaluru-Mysuru, Ballari, Belagavi and Goa highways, where incidents of highway robberies, vehicle blockades and delayed emergency response have raised concerns.

Officials said intensified patrolling will ensure faster assistance for stranded commuters and deter criminal activity on highways. **–BMB**

Police clarify viral auto driver dispute

A viral video shared on X by @rajanna_rupesh showing a heated argument between a migrant passenger and a local auto driver within the limits of Amruthahalli Police Station sparked an online debate. In the post, the user alleged that the migrant passenger was harassing the auto driver for speaking Kannada and warned against increasing migration in the city.

Responding to the claims, Bengaluru City Police and Amruthahalli Police said the incident involved auto driver Raju, a resident of Hongasandra, and three passengers travelling from Mahadevapura to Arekere. Police clarified that the dispute arose over excess luggage carried by the passengers and was not solely a language-related issue. **–BMB**

CHANGE OF GUARD

Karnataka's CMs and their political milestones

From three-day governments to record-breaking tenures, here are some defining chapters in turbulent journey of Karnataka's Chief Ministers

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Karnataka's political history has produced everything from short-lived governments and dramatic resignations to record-breaking chief ministers who rewrote the state's political playbook. In a state where stability has often been rare, the Chief Minister's chair has seen extraordinary highs and astonishingly short stays.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah now holds the distinction of being Karnataka's longest-serving Chief Minister in terms of cumulative tenure, surpassing the record previously held by Congress stalwart D Devaraj Urs. Siddaramaiah crossed the landmark in January 2026 after completing more than 2,792 days in office across two separate terms. His first innings between 2013 and 2018 also made him one of only three Karnataka Chief Ministers to complete a full uninterrupted five-year term.

That list itself is remarkably short. Since Karnataka's formation in 1956, only S Nijalingappa, D Devaraj Urs and Siddaramaiah have successfully completed full five-year tenures without interruption. Coalition instability, defections, leadership changes and internal party revolts have ensured that most governments in the state rarely lasted an entire term.

File photo of DK Shivakumar (left) with Siddaramaiah (right) at a press meet

If Siddaramaiah represents political longevity, BJP veteran BS Yediyurappa represents Karnataka's most turbulent path to power. He remains the state's only four-time Chief Minister, having taken oath in 2007, 2008, 2018 and 2019. Yet, despite returning repeatedly to the top post, he never completed a full five-year tenure. His shortest stint came in May 2018 when he resigned before a floor test after serving for barely 55 hours. Earlier, in 2007, he headed another government that lasted just eight days during the BJP-JD(S) power-sharing breakdown.

Former Janata leader Ramakrishna Hegde also occupies a significant place in Karnataka's political history. Widely regarded as one of the state's most influential administrators, Hegde served across three separate terms during the 1980s and helped shape decentralised governance reforms that continue to influence state administration.

Siddaramaiah also holds another rare political distinction. Across his stints as Finance Minister and Chief Minister, he has presented 17 Karnataka state budgets, one of the highest by any state leader in India.

Congress veteran Veerendra Patil holds the record for the longest gap between two terms as Chief Minister. After leaving office in 1971, he returned to power only in 1989, marking a political gap of more than 18 years.

Karnataka politics has also seen two father-son chief minister combinations. Former Prime Minister HD Deve Gowda and his son HD Kumaraswamy both occupied the CM's office, while SR Bommai and Basavaraj Bommai became another such political duo decades later.

Among Karnataka's former Chief Ministers, Deve Gowda remains the only leader to leave the state's top post midway to become Prime Minister of India in 1996. Another former CM, BD Jatti later rose to become Vice President of India and also served briefly as Acting President.

5th CM from Ramanagara

With DKS set to become CM, Bengaluru South district (formerly Ramanagara/Bengaluru Rural) has overtaken Shivamogga district as the only district in Karnataka to have produced five Chief Ministers: Kengal Hanumanthaiah, Ramakrishna Hegde, HD Deve Gowda, HD Kumaraswamy and now DK Shivakumar. Representing Kanakapura, Shivakumar will also become only the second Chief Minister from the constituency after Ramakrishna Hegde, who won from there in 1983. Interestingly, despite producing multiple chief ministers, no leader from the district has completed a full five-year term in office.

'Coordination panel to be formed later'

Senior Congress leader Satish Jarkiholi indicated that decisions on constituting a coordination committee and finalising Karnataka's cabinet expansion would rest with the party high command. He underscored that the immediate priority is the formal appointment of the Chief Minister and the swift filling of ministerial vacancies to ensure smooth governance. He suggested that a coordination mechanism could be considered later if required and stressed the importance of balancing community representation with administrative experience in selecting ministers. Jarkiholi also observed that DK Shivakumar enjoys broad acceptance within the Congress due to his long-standing service to the party. –BMB

Ministers, deputy CMs yet to be finalised

Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge said the composition of Karnataka's new cabinet, including the number of ministers and deputy chief ministers, is yet to be decided and will be finalised after June 3, when DK Shivakumar is scheduled to be sworn in as Chief Minister. He indicated that cabinet formation is likely to take place in phases, with an initial round of appointments followed by a second expansion later. Kharge also confirmed that the party is searching for a new Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC) president to succeed Shivakumar. He stressed the need for a leader capable of strengthening the organisation, fostering teamwork and preparing the party for upcoming elections. His remarks came ahead of Shivakumar's swearing-in, following his unanimous election as Congress Legislature Party leader after Siddaramaiah's resignation. –BMB

Why southern neighbours deliver stability while CM changes remain norm in K'taka

Unlike most southern states with clear power centre in ruling parties, Karnataka politics has long revolved around multiple influential leaders across regions and communities, says senior political observer

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The elevation of DK Shivakumar as Karnataka's next Chief Minister has once again brought into focus a question that has long intrigued political observers: why has Karnataka struggled to provide leadership continuity when most of its southern neighbours have witnessed chief ministers serving full terms or remaining in office for significantly longer periods?

The latest transition is particularly significant because Siddaramaiah is set to leave office after completing roughly three years of the Congress government's tenure, leaving Shivakumar with less than two years before the next Assembly election. While the arrangement may help maintain political balance within the ruling party, it also reinforces Karnataka's reputation as a state where leadership transitions are rarely straightforward.

Historically, Karnataka has seen relatively few chief ministers complete a full five-year term. Governments have often been shaped by factional negotiations, caste equations, coalition compulsions and power-sharing arrangements.

The experience of neighbouring states presents a sharp contrast. Tamil Nadu's political history has largely been dominated by towering leaders who exercised near-complete authority over their parties. Leaders such as M Karunanidhi and J Jayalalithaa built organisational structures where challenges to the leadership were minimal, ensuring continuity in governance.

Similarly, Andhra Pradesh witnessed extended periods of stable leadership under N Chandrababu Naidu, while YS Jagan Mohan Reddy completed a full five-year term without facing internal succession battles.

Telangana offers another example. Since the state's formation in 2014, K Chandrashekar Rao remained the undisputed centre of power for nearly a decade, allowing his government to function without recurring leadership speculation. In Kerala, ideological discipline and organisational cohesion within political fronts have enabled leaders such as Pinarayi Vijayan to enjoy long uninterrupted tenures. Even Puducherry has witnessed chief ministers serving longer continuous stretches than what is often seen in Karnataka.

"The difference is that most southern states have had a clearly identifiable power centre within the ruling party, whereas Karnataka politics has traditionally revolved around multiple influential leaders representing different regions and communities," a senior political observer noted.

Another factor is Karnataka's unique social and political composition. Electoral success often depends on balancing the aspirations of dominant communities, regional blocs and party factions.

As a result, chief ministerial positions frequently become part of broader political negotiations rather than being settled for an entire term at the outset.

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We will paint the town red

... Bengaluru's unofficial uniform for the day was its team's jersey as fans gathered to cheer their team on

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Bengaluru wore a common uniform on IPL final day — the Royal Challengers Bengaluru jersey. From IT corridors and residential communities to malls, clubs and cinema halls, the city was awash in red as thousands of fans prepared to cheer for RCB in one of the most anticipated matches of the season.

Cinema halls across the city emerged as popular venues for fans eager to catch the high-voltage clash on giant screens. Multiplex chains PVR and INOX scheduled special live screenings, offering a stadium-like experience with immersive sound systems and large-format screens. According to ticketing platform BookMyShow, more than 12,000 tickets for cinema screenings of the final were booked in the last 24 hours alone, reflecting the extraordinary excitement surrounding the match.

At the Bowring Institute, all tables for the IPL final screening had already been reserved well ahead of match time. The club was preparing to host nearly 1,000 members along with their friends and family members in a secure and well-managed environment, complete with parking and safety arrangements.

Across Bengaluru, several corporate groups also opted for private indoor screenings at homes and office spaces, allowing employees to come together and enjoy the match in a more comfortable setting. Many workplaces reported a festive atmosphere, with employees arriving in RCB jerseys and planning post-work viewing parties.

Rakesh, an IT professional from Whitefield, said his colleagues had chosen to celebrate the occasion together at home rather than venture into crowded public venues.

Spectators before the start of Indian Premier League (IPL) 2026 final match between Royal Challengers Bengaluru and Gujarat Titans in Ahmedabad on Sunday

"Usually we go out for screenings, but this time we decided to keep it simple and watch the IPL final together at my home in Whitefield with my colleagues. We've set up a big screen in the living room, ordered food in advance, and everyone is coming in their jerseys. It feels like a mini office celebration — safer, more comfortable, and honestly more fun than going out in the crowd. After a stressful work week, this is our way of unwinding together and enjoying the match like a proper fan zone at home," he said.

The excitement was equally visible in the city's merchandise market. A T-shirt vendor near the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium said demand for RCB merchandise had surged dramatically over the past week.

"Sales have gone up by more than 80 per cent compared to last week. Even though there were fewer matches at Chinnaswamy recently, the buzz around the final has brought fans back. Jerseys are moving fast, and so are RCB caps and wristbands. Anything in red is selling out quickly as excitement peaks across the city," he said.

Shopping malls also joined the celebrations, with several venues organising free live screenings and transforming retail spaces into fan zones. Food courts, atriums and common areas were expected to draw large crowds as supporters gathered to watch the match together.

Bowlers shine as RCB rein in Gujarat

Royal Challengers Bengaluru closed in on their second consecutive IPL title after bowlers exploited a slow pitch to perfection, restricting a lethargic Gujarat Titans to a sub-par 155 for eight in the final here on Sunday.

Shot-making was not exactly an easy proposition on the pitch No. 6 at the Narendra Modi stadium, a mix of red and black soil, and it aptly reflected in the GT batting.

Washington Sundar resisted the trend with an unbeaten 50 (37b, 5x4), but the damage around him was far too big to mitigate.

The fatigue of playing Qualifier 2 on Friday and a delayed departure because of inclement weather at Mullanpur also might have added to their list of woes.

But none of that should not take any credit away from the RCB bowlers who more often than not found the correct lengths on this deck.

The Titans needed skipper Shubman Gill and his opening partner B Sai Sudharsan to fire upfront to pile a competitive total, but they failed in that endeavour.

A steady beginning was not alien to GT openers but Gill's swat off Josh Hazlewood (2/37) took the leading edge of his bat to create a simple catch for his opposite number Rajat Patidar.

Sudharsan, who was once saved by DRS from being caught behind off Jacob Duffy, did not last long either.

The left-hander's woeful pull off a well-directed high and wide bouncer by Bhuvneshwar Kumar (2/29) did not travel beyond a running-in stumper Jitesh Sharma. Bhuvneshwar is now tied with Kagiso Rabada (28 wickets) in the Purple Cap race.

Once their two batters, who have amassed over 700 runs each this season, the GT batting lost its rudders, ending an underwhelming Power Play phase at 45 for two.

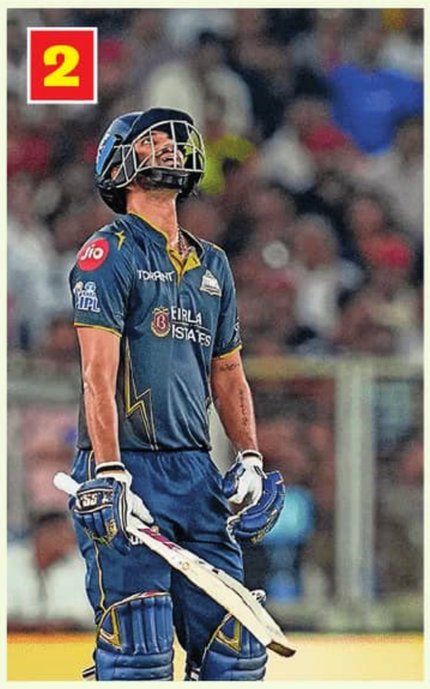
There was no real fire or purpose in the rest of the batters to enact a recovery act.

Jos Buttler (19) and Washington, who brought up his fifty in 37 balls, tried to keep the innings of Titans together but they struggled to shake off their defensive mien.

The young pacer Rasikh Salam Dhar (3/27), who continued his impressive run behind lead bowlers Bhuvneshwar and Hazlewood, picked up the wickets of an out-of-sync Nishant Sindhu (20 off 18 balls) and Rahul Tewatia as the home side lost the cream of its batting line-up even before reaching 100.

That the Titans had to wait till the 13th over for the first six off their innings - a mighty drag over mid-wicket off Krunal Pandya - underlined GT's turmoil on the night. **–PTI**

WICKET AFTER WICKET



1. Royal Challengers Bengaluru's Rajat Patidar and teammates celebrate the wicket of Gujarat Titans' skipper Shubman Gill
2. Gujarat Titans' Washington Sundar celebrates his half century
3. Royal Challengers Bengaluru' Rasikh Salam bowls a delivery
4. Royal Challengers Bengaluru's Krunal Pandya, top, celebrates with captain Rajat Patidar after taking the wicket of Gujarat Titans' Jos Buttler

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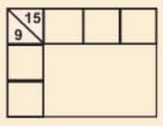
SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

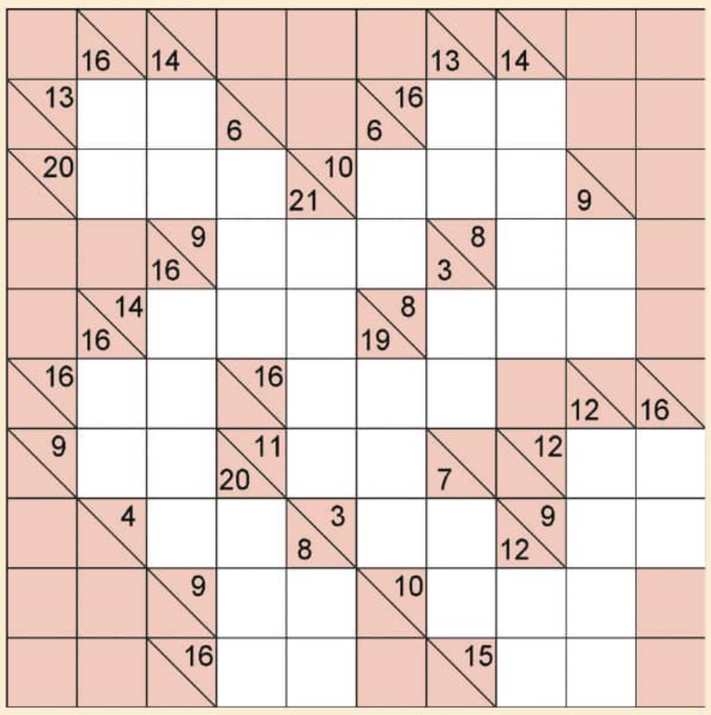
A fifty pound stone placed 2 feet to the right of the left end of a see-saw balances with a 150 pound stone placed 7 feet to the left to the right side. How long is the see-saw?

Kakuro

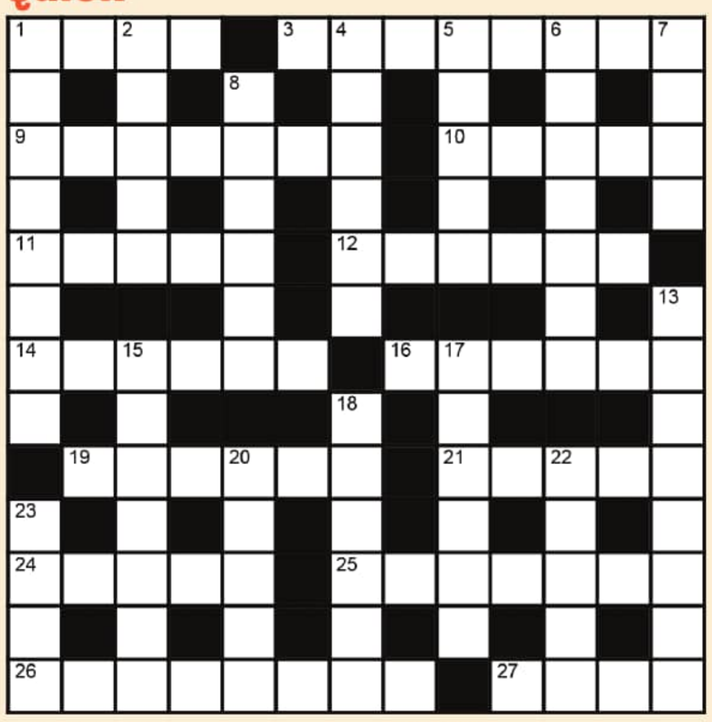
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Seeded (4)
3 Performed with great precision (8)
9 Pertaining to the great seas (7)
10 Employment (5)
11 Fountain in Rome (5)
12 Rang a bell (6)
14 Its capital is Kigali (6)
16 Expose a fraud (6)
19 Endeavoured (6)
21 French sculptor (5)
24 Brimless hat (5)
25 Foot-pedal (7)
26 An absolute ruler (8)
27 Immediately (4)

DOWN

1 Gunmen (8)
2 At what place ? (5)
4 Famous landmark on the corner of Kasturba road and Vittal Mallya Road (2,4)
5 Thin porridge (5)
6 The French mansion (7)
7 In ___ of : instead? (4)
8 Loosened the laces, perhaps? (6)
13 Superficial, not lasting (4-4)
15 An old piece of furniture (7)
17 Spookier (6)
18 Characterised by great activity or confusion (6)
20 Musical drama (5)
22 Chaps (5)
23 Hankering (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: P EQUALS S

FL XJJ RFPPVPPYFQP TYPUFI XJFQV YP YIIFKBXJ.

Line maro

I'm usually not very prophetic, but I can see us together

Mindchow

Not to know what has been transacted in former times is to be always a child. If no use is made of the labours of past ages, the world must remain always in the infancy of knowledge

Joke of the day

Night Club: A place where they take the rest out of restaurant and put the din in dinner.

Loop

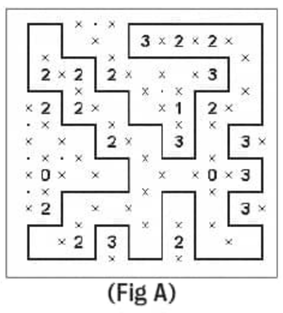
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

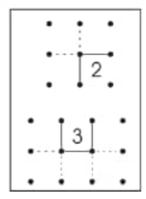
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

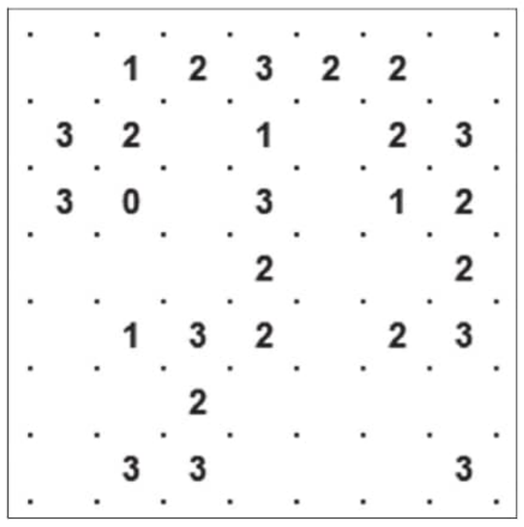
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



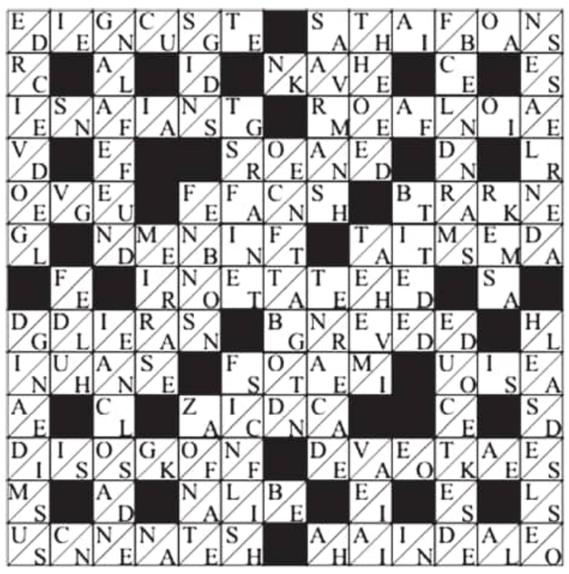
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...

1 U	2	3	4	5
6				
7				
8				
9				

ACROSS

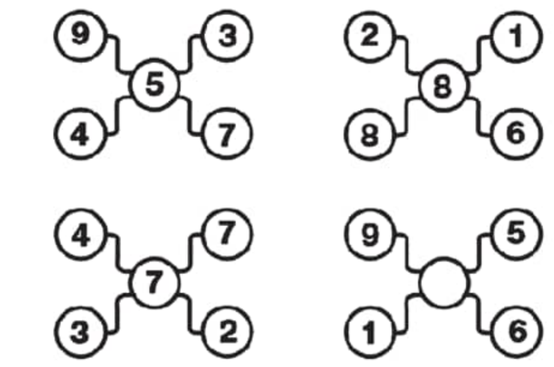
1 Tunis; 6 Arcas; 7 I hunt; 8 Abode; 9 Ruled

DOWN

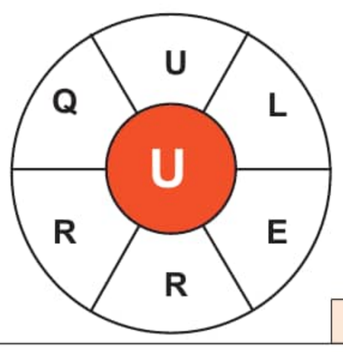
1 Luaus; 2 Nun ad; 3 Choir; 4 Tiber; 5 Dates

Mensapuzzle

Ho



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

03 Average; **04** Good; **05** Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

3			1		9			7
5			3		4			8
		1				9		
7		3		4		2		9
		9				4		
6		2		8		3		1
		7				6		
1			2		7			4
2			8		6			5

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy

							= 16
3	5	7	7				

Medium

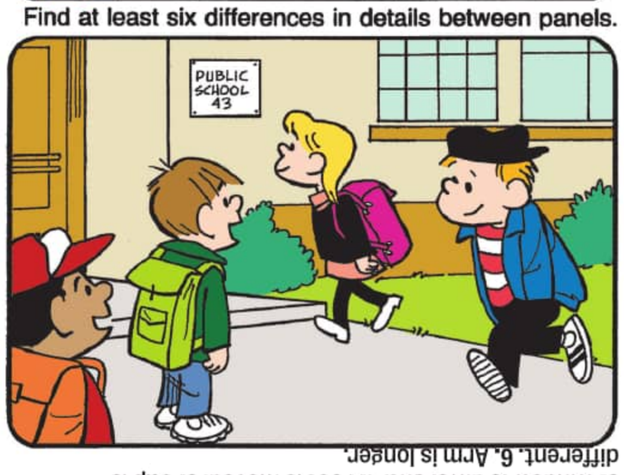
							= 3
2	2	3	3				

Hard

							= 1
1	6	8	2				

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Boy is moved. **2.** Book is missing. **3.** Window is different. **4.** Foot is moved. **5.** Cap is different. **6.** Arm is longer.

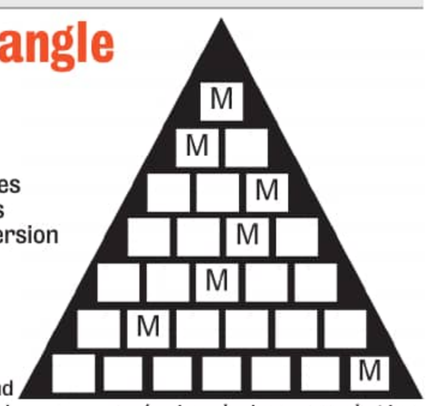
Riddler

Below are incomplete words. Replace the letters in each bracket so that you can complete the word on the left and begin the word on the right.

Ri (___) satile

Alpha triangle

1 Bond's boss
2 Mother
3 US uncle
4 Intentions
5 Metrical measures
6 Scopes or ranges
7 Ceremonial immersion



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE »

COMICS

Popeye

THEY IS ONLY ONE TROUBLE WIT' THE WORLD!
ADULTS IS RUNNIN' IT!
WE KIDS SHOULD HAVE A CHANCE TO SET THINGS RIGHT!
YEAH!
WE'D HAVE ICE CREAM SIX TIMES A DAY!
8-29
popeye.com

Bizarrotrip

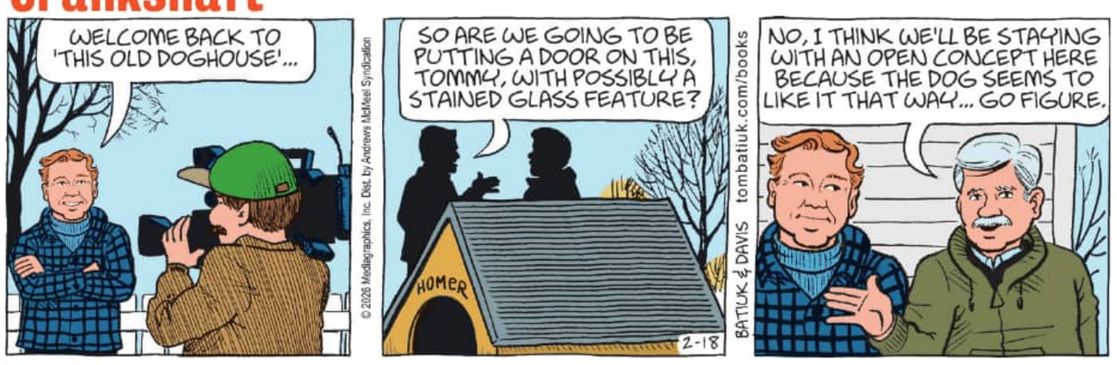
Diamond Lil

...AND THEN THERE WAS A SULTRY STRAWBERRY BLONDE I ALSO WOOED IN MY YOUTH...
AS I RECALL, SHE WAS QUITE THE SEDUCTRESS!
OH? WHAT WAS HER NAME?
SONIA WILDOATS!
www.creators.com

Hart of the city

SUGOI!!
THERE ARE SO MANY NON-ENGLISH WORDS THAT MAKE IT INTO OUR VOCABULARY. KAWAII. SUGOI.
HASTA LA VISTA! REPONDEZ S'IL VOUS PLAIT!
DANKE SCHOEN, DARLING, DANKE SCHOEN!
WHAT ARE YOU TWO DOING IN HERE?
NADA!
@GOCOMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

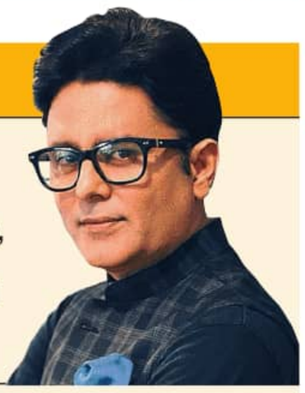
Crankshaft


WELCOME BACK TO 'THIS OLD DOGHOUSE'...
SO ARE WE GOING TO BE PUTTING A DOOR ON THIS, TOMMY, WITH POSSIBLY A STAINED GLASS FEATURE?
HOMER
NO, I THINK WE'LL BE STAYING WITH AN OPEN CONCEPT HERE BECAUSE THE DOG SEEMS TO LIKE IT THAT WAY... GO FIGURE.
BATIUK & DAVIS tombatiuk.com/books

Mutts

WRITTEN IN THE STARS

DR SUNDEEP KOCHAR



If it's your birthday today

Your personal new year starts with a major professional breakthrough. A bold decision you made months ago finally yields lucrative results. In romance, vulnerability brings you closer to a partner or a promising new connection. Prioritize physical vitality today; a new fitness routine or outdoor activity will instantly elevate your energy levels and clear your mental clutter.

Aries Mar 21–Apr 20

Your support and encouragement finally inspire someone to shine confidently today. Feel proud of the positive difference you created. Your compassionate energy attracts meaningful connections, making your presence comforting and uplifting everywhere.

Taurus Apr 21–May 20

An old idea or unfinished project returns with promising results today. Revisiting previous efforts brings unexpected motivation and success. Focus on strengthening existing plans instead of chasing new beginnings right now.

Gemini May 21–Jun 21

Resources that once felt limited begin flowing toward you unexpectedly today. Whether time, money, or opportunities, abundance returns. Use everything thoughtfully and organize wisely, ensuring stability and confidence moving forward steadily.

Cancer Jun 22–July 23

Your intuition reveals surprising truths about yourself today, encouraging meaningful self-discovery. Stay open instead of guarded while embracing these realizations. Sharing your thoughts honestly strengthens emotional bonds with friends and loved ones.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23

Others may try influencing your decisions today, but your focus keeps you grounded. Stay confident in your ambitions and avoid distractions. Protect your momentum carefully, because your determination continues attracting admiration everywhere.

Virgo Aug 24–Sep 23

Choosing positivity today completely shifts your mindset and energy beautifully. Release frustrations and stop forcing situations beyond your control. Appreciating what already surrounds you keeps your spirit hopeful, balanced, and emotionally fulfilled.

Libra Sep 24–Oct 22

Your caring personality comforts everyone around you, though constantly carrying others' emotions feels exhausting today. Prioritise yourself for once. Opening up honestly to someone trustworthy brings emotional relief, comfort, and inner balance.

Scorpio Oct 23–Nov 22

Your generous heart shines brightly today, but maintaining healthy boundaries remains important. Avoid overextending yourself for others unnecessarily. Protecting your resources and energy first ensures long-term stability, confidence, and personal peace ahead.

Sagittarius Nov 23–Dec 22

Life feels unusually fast-paced lately, making today perfect for slowing down intentionally. Your enthusiasm drives everything passionately, but rest matters too. Give yourself permission to recharge mentally, physically, and emotionally without guilt.

Capricorn Dec 23–Jan 20

A softer emotional side emerges today, encouraging deeper conversations with trusted friends. Seeking comfort and support strengthens your connections beautifully. Be mindful about who you confide in, choosing honesty, loyalty, and understanding carefully.

Aquarius Jan 21–Feb 19

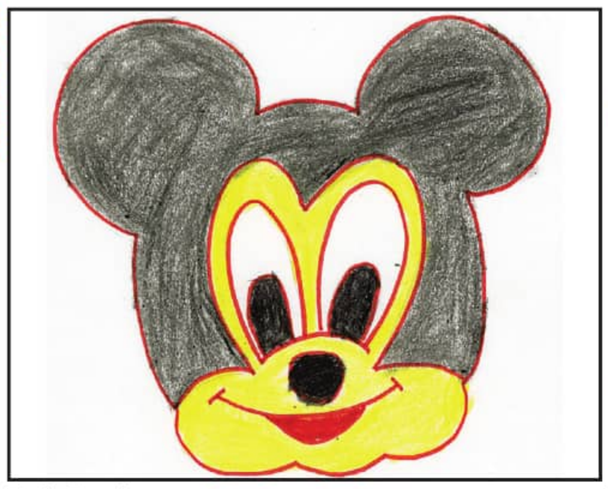
Unspoken feelings between you and someone important finally demand attention today. Honest communication clears misunderstandings and rebuilds closeness beautifully. Express yourself openly instead of expecting others to automatically understand your emotions and intentions.

Pisces Feb 20–Mar 20

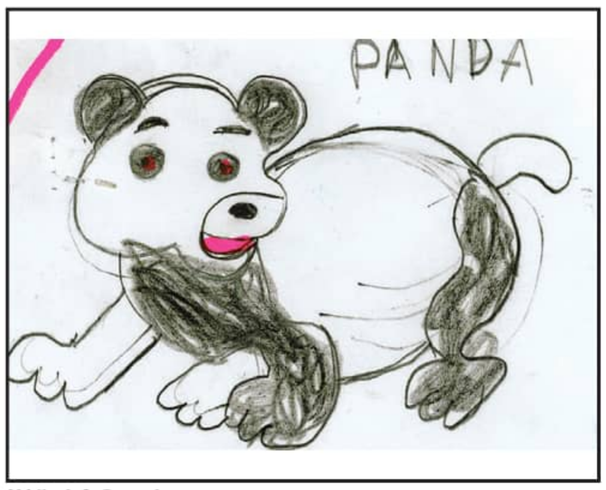
You often stay focused on future outcomes, forgetting how much progress you've already made. Today encourages reflection and appreciation. Recognizing your growth inspires confidence, reminding you how far your journey has truly come.

www.sundeepkochar.com

KIDZONE



Rhyda, Bengaluru



Akhilesh S, Bengaluru

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M

H=1/2 the length of the see-saw
50°(H-2)=150°(H-7)
50H-100=150H-1050
100H=950
H=9.5
2H=19 feet
Length =19 feet

BULL'S EYE

ilea, LIQUEUR, lure, rile, rule

STRIKE OUT

D	E	G	U	S	T	■	S	H	A	B	A	N	■	■
R	A	I	■	N	A	E	■	E	■	E	■	■	■	■
I	N	F	A	N	T	■	R	E	A	L	I	A	■	■
V	■	F	■	R	O	A	D	■	D	■	■	R	■	■
E	V	E	■	E	A	C	H	■	T	A	K	E	■	■
L	■	D	E	B	I	T	■	T	I	M	E	D	■	■
■	F	■	R	O	T	A	T	E	D	■	A	■	■	■
G	L	E	A	N	■	G	R	E	E	D	■	H	■	■
N	U	N	S	■	F	O	A	M	■	U	S	A	■	■
E	■	C	■	Z	I	N	C	■	C	■	■	S	■	■
I	S	O	G	O	N	■	E	V	O	K	E	S	■	■
S	■	D	■	N	I	B	■	I	■	E	■	L	■	■
S	C	E	N	E	S	■	H	A	N	D	L	E	■	■

FAST FIVE

U	N	I	T	S
S	A	C	R	A
U	N	H	I	T
A	D	O	B	E
L	U	R	E	D

RIDDLER

River - versatile,
Alarm - armoury,
Mound - undergo

QUICK

H	I	E	R	A	R	C	H	■	A	S	A	P	■	■
C	■	U	■	R	■	I	■	R	■	E	■	E	■	■
T	O	Q	U	E	■	T	R	E	A	D	L	E	■	■
I	■	I	■	P	■	C	■	I	■	U	■	D	■	■
S	■	T	R	O	V	E	■	R	O	D	I	N	■	■
S	■	N	■	■	■	H	■	■	E	■	■	I	■	■
R	W	A	N	D	A	■	D	E	B	U	N	K	■	■
E	■	E	■	■	■	Y	■	■	A	■	■	S	■	■
T	R	E	V	I	■	T	O	L	L	E	D	■	■	■
O	■	R	■	T	■	I	■	E	■	T	■	U	■	■
O	C	E	A	N	I	C	■	U	S	A	G	E	■	■
H	■	H	■	U	■	B	■	R	■	H	■	I	■	■
S	O	W	N	■	S	U	R	G	I	C	A	L	■	■

QUOTE UNCODE

Of all possessions
wisdom alone is
immortal.

MENSA PUZZLE

3. In each diagram, add up the 4 outer numbers to give a 2 digit value. Add these 2 digits together to give the central value.

SUDOKU

3	2	8	1	6	9	5	4	7
5	9	6	3	7	4	1	2	8
4	7	1	5	2	8	9	6	3
8	1	9	7	3	2	4	5	6
7	5	3	6	4	1	2	8	9
6	4	2	9	8	5	3	7	1
9	8	7	4	5	3	6	1	2
1	6	5	2	9	7	8	3	4
2	3	4	8	1	6	7	9	5

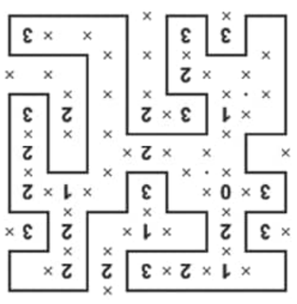
ALPHA TRIANGLE

M, Ma, Sam,
Aims, Iambs,
Ambits,
Baptism.

GO FIGURE

Easy
7 + 5 − 3 + 7 = 16
Medium
2 − 2 x 3 + 3 = 3
Hard
6 − 8 + 1 + 2 = 1

LOOP



KAKURO

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 # Tributes to sister
Hollywood star Jamie Lee Curtis remembered her sister and actor Kelly Lee Curtis, describing her as her first friend and lifelong confidant, after her death, aged 69

This too shall pass

Sobhita reveals how she handles over-the-top public curiosity over her personal life

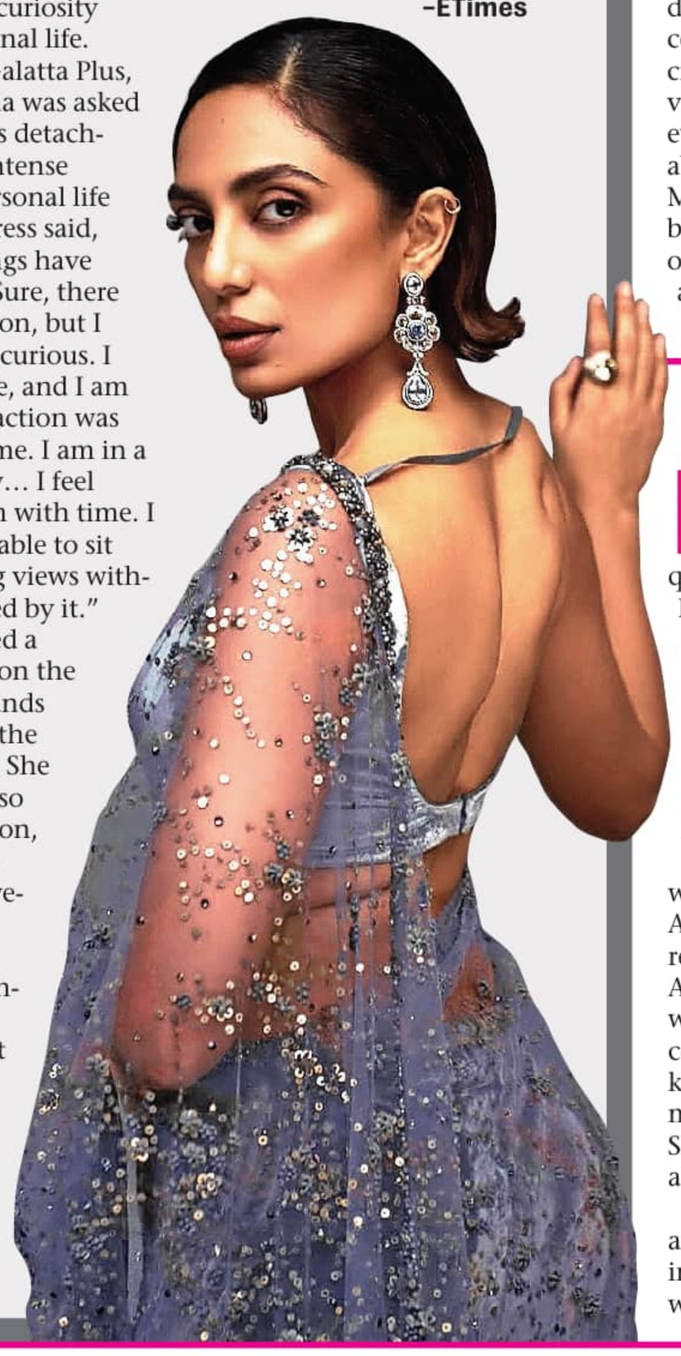
Since her high-profile wedding to actor Naga Chaitanya in December 2024, Sobhita Dhulipala has always been in the news. In a recent interview, the actress has addressed the relentless public curiosity around her personal life.

Speaking to Galatta Plus, Sobhita Dhulipala was asked how she practises detachment from the intense attention her personal life receives. The actress said, "All of these things have taught me that. Sure, there was some attention, but I think people are curious. I was living my life, and I am not sure what reaction was expected out of me. I am in a great place in my… I feel surer of who I am with time. I am very comfortable to sit amidst polarising views without being touched by it."

Sobhita offered a broader outlook on the noise that surrounds public figures in the social media age. She added, "There is so much conversation, so much heat, in general, about everything. It is like the weather. Society has weather. It can't be taken seriously, it is not forever. The weather is going to change. I think one has to be centred to know that."

On the professional front, Sobhita was most recently seen in the Telugu crime thriller series 'Cheekatilo'. She is next set to appear in 'Vettuvam', a Tamil sci-fi drama directed by Pa Ranjith.

-ETimes



'Global star': Madhuri on Aish's side

Aishwarya Rai Bachchan recently made headlines with her annual appearance at the Cannes Film Festival. While social media couldn't stop gushing over her looks this year, there was also some trolling and body-shaming. Madhuri Dixit has now strongly defended her 'Devdas' co-star.

Aishwarya, who has been a fixture at Cannes for over two decades, found herself at the centre of social media criticism after photographs and videos from the prestigious event sparked discussions about her appearance. Madhuri, however, believes such comments overlook Aishwarya's achievements and the impact she has had as a global representative of India.

Madhuri praised Aishwarya's long-standing association with the festival and her contributions on the international stage. "She has been going there for 20 years. She has done the whole country proud. She is a global star. She has done so much for the country. You cannot reduce her to a number on a scale or a number on the dress or the size or a number on the calendar years. You cannot reduce her to that. She is beautiful. She looks beautiful but she is beautiful inside," the actress said in an interview with PTI.

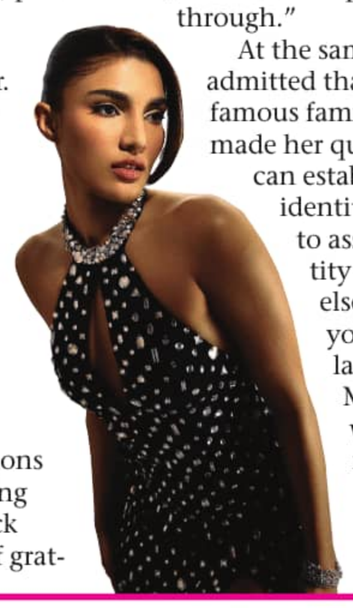
-ETimes

Acknowledging her privilege

For many newcomers in Bollywood, the pressure to stay visible and sign projects quickly can be overwhelming. But Alizeh Agnihotri is taking a different route. After making her debut with 'Farrey', the actor has consciously chosen not to rush into another film, preferring to wait for roles that genuinely challenge her as a performer.

In a recent interview with Variety India, Alizeh reflected on the realities of privilege. Alizeh was candid when asked whether coming from a well-known film family has made her journey easier. She acknowledged her advantages openly.

"When I go for auditions and witness others making introductions, I am struck with a profound sense of gratitude. People from the industry say it's hard, but the effort, access, comfort and basic luxuries are all different. If you come from a household that's well-off, and you don't have to worry about rent or other basic needs, it's not hard compared to what those without that support, go through."



At the same time, she admitted that belonging to a famous family has often made her question how she can establish her own identity. "People tend to associate your identity with someone else, especially if you come from a large film family. My desire to know who I am makes me unique. It's about how I can stand out."

-ETimes

Doesn't add up

The National Award-winning actor Manoj Bajpayee, who is gearing up for the release of his upcoming film 'Governor', has shared that his titular role was quite demanding given that he doesn't come from an economics background, and is not very skilled at maths.

The film is based on RBI Governor, S Venkitaramanan, whose actions smoothened the impact of gargantuan economic change after the enforcement of the New Economic Policy.

The actor spoke with IANS during the promotions of the film, and shared that he was drawn to the script because a story based on an RBI Governor was unprecedented.

Manoj told IANS, "It's a very well written script about an RBI Governor, how his out of box decision completely took the country out of crisis. When we talk about heroes, we usually make films on army officers or politicians. But I felt that for the first time, we are talking about a

man, who was working behind the curtain from a new sector, we are talking about such a department, which drives the policy of a very crucial department."

The actor said that people in the financial and economic machinery of the nation had a humongous task in front of them as the country's well-being was at stake and people's livelihood were at stake at every step.

He shared, "I didn't have any other reasons to say no to it. Rather, I thought that this would add to my knowledge about the world and educate me. We are talking about 1991, there was a war between Iraq and Kuwait, there was a big crisis in the country."

-IANS

SANDALWOOD SHOTS
Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Hit tune

Director BS Sanjay is all set to release his latest and 24th movie Madanika in which Ragini Dwivedi plays the female lead. "My previous movie Revenge is yet to be released. I am very happy with the quality of Madanika. We constructed a palace set to film a song featuring Ragini Dwivedi and Dev Gill. Both have acted well," said Sanjay.

On the shooting of the song Indraloka Chandrika that was completed in four days, he said around 150 junior artistes participated in the sequence. "We plan to release the movie in July. The movie went on floors two years ago and recently got an UA certificate from the Censor Board," the director said. This song's lyrics were written by K Kalyan aka Premakavi (Love Poet) while its music was composed by Salam Viroli. Vijay Prakash and Anuradha Bhat have sung it. The film has 10 songs in all. "The song has already become popular. Madanika will entertain audiences," the director said.

John Vijay on board

The team members of Halka Don are excited that versatile actor John Vijay will get on board. Halka Don, a bilingual movie, is directed by Chala known for Andavaada that was released in October 2019. KP Srikanth, who backed the movies Tagaru, Salaga, and UI, is supporting Halka Don under the Veenus Entertainer banner. Halka Don team welcomed John Vijay by releasing a special look poster in which the actor looks rugged.

"Initially, we thought of having Soubin Shahir play the villain, but we encountered a call sheet problem. Finally, we zeroed in on John Vijay, a versatile actor," said producer KP Srikanth.

John Vijay is known for acting in Tamil, Telugu, and Malayalam movies. He has also acted in two Kannada movies - Prithvi and Gajakesari. He makes a comeback to Sandalwood after a gap of 12 years. "The filming of three schedules of Halka Don were completed in Bengaluru. We are planning to have shooting of two remaining schedules in and around Mangaluru. We want to release the movie in September," the producer said.